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Sub-Commission on Prevention of
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CONTEMPORARY FORMS OF SLAVERY

Note by the Secretariat pursuant to paragraph 3 of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1993/27 and paragraphs 25 and 26 of Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities resolution 1993/5

1. The Commission on Human Rights, in paragraph 3 of its resolution 1993/27, requested the Secretary-General to invite States parties to the Slavery Convention of 1926, the Supplementary Convention on the Abolition of Slavery, the Slave Trade, and Institutions and Practices similar to Slavery of 1956 and the Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Persons and of the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others of 1949 to submit to the Sub-Commission regular reports on the situation in their countries, as provided for under the Conventions and in Economic and Social Council decision 16 (LVI) of 17 May 1974, which contains the mandate of the Working Group on Contemporary Forms of Slavery.

2. Similarly, the Sub-Commission, in paragraph 25 of its resolution 1993/5, recommended that the Secretary-General again request the States parties to the international conventions on slavery to submit to it, at regular intervals, reports on the situation in their countries.

3. Moreover, the Sub-Commission, in paragraph 26 of resolution 1993/5, requested the Secretary-General again to invite annually States which have not acceded to or have not ratified the international conventions on slavery to explain why they had not done so and to report on their replies to the

Sub-Commission and to the Commission, and to extend a similar invitation to States which had not ratified the International Labour Organisation conventions on forced labour.

4. The Secretary-General extended these invitations in a note verbale dated 25 October 1993. The Secretary-General has received replies from the following countries: Canada, the Czech Republic, Ethiopia, Finland, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, the Philippines, Spain and Switzerland. Those replies that had arrived in time were reproduced in a document of the Working Group on Contemporary Forms of Slavery (E/CN.4/Sub.2/AC.2/1994/4), which is available in the files of the secretariat. The replies that arrived later, which are also available in the files of the secretariat, will be issued as a document of the Working Group for its 1995 session.